

.....Your Turn by Will Perkins.....

CFV gladly welcomes “rational debate”

Greg Walta has added his voice to that of Ground Zero's, asking Colorado for Family Values (CFV) to join them in a moratorium on homosexual issues.

Although Amendment 2 started in Colorado, it soon became, and still is, a national issue. As a result, Colorado for Family Values has had to widen its focus to that same arena. Clearly, the controversy has grown far beyond being resolved by a local moratorium.

Truth is, Amendment 2 was a defensive move aimed at stopping the forced affirmation of homosexuality and the granting of special civil rights based on behavior. At the present time, we are involved in the national debate regarding same-sex marriage — once again, a battle we never sought, but one forced on us by a lawsuit filed by six people in Hawaii.

Every poll taken since the 1992 election has shown that hate was never the reason Amendment 2 passed. This leads me to ask you and Ground Zero: Can someone disagree with homosexuality without your labeling them “hateful”? Can a disagreement remain a disagreement without someone being demonized? Couldn't we revive the American tradition of principled debate in the private marketplace of ideas?

Knowing this issue will affect the presidential debate, we polled the entire list of potential candidates for the March 5 primary here in Colorado, asking the following questions:

1. Would you support extending legal recognition to homosexual marriages?
2. Would you support allowing homosexuals to serve in the military?
3. Would you support laws giving homosexual behavior protected class status?
4. Would you support allowing public-school children to be taught that homosexuality is an acceptable alternative lifestyle?
5. Would you support laws extending adoption privileges to homosexuals?

All Republican candidates except Forbes responded “No” to all five questions. None of the Democratic candidates responded.

My point? These candidates are concerned, because millions of Americans are concerned. They do not hate, but neither do they wish to have affirmation of homosexuality shoved down their throats.

Greg, we are happy to continue discussing this issue in a reasonable manner, as we have done for five years. As far as a moratorium, I suggest you talk to your colleagues at the ACLU and ask them to withdraw all their lawsuits pressing homosexual issues. Ask the NEA to cancel all efforts to indoctrinate public-school children with homosexual propaganda. Ask media and entertainment leaders to stop their incessant pro-gay brainwashing campaigns. Ask the Clinton administration to quit promoting homosexuality throughout the military and civil service. Ask employers to cease abusive “diversity” and “sensitivity” training sessions which harass “politically incorrect” employees. Ask the batteries of pro-homosexual lawyers and lobbyists to remove “sexual orientation” from legal and legislative onslaughts. Ask local activists to call off their defiant “pride” parades and gay-film festivals.

If you prove successful with these requests, then Colorado for Family Values will gladly join you in a moratorium, and I will get back to my day job of selling cars.

Mr. Perkins' article is a direct response to a guest editorial (Independent, Feb. 14) by Greg Walta calling for a moratorium on “all gay initiatives and legislation to give the community a chance to heal.” — Ed.

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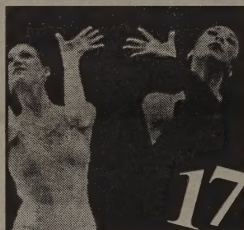
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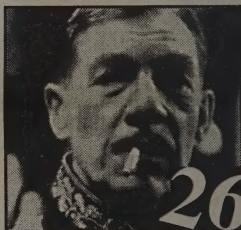
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